

Obituary

MANY MEMBERS of the Association, especially former colleagues from the State Library of NSW and from special libraries, will have been saddened to hear of the death on 3 July 1981, of Mrs Constance McKay.

After graduating from the University of Sydney, Mrs McKay worked at the then Public Library of NSW, mainly under Miss N. Kibble in the Research Department, until her marriage. After a break she returned to librarianship in 1941 as Librarian at Commonwealth Industrial Gases Ltd and remained their librarian until her retirement in 1967. She was a skilled spokeswoman for industrial libraries and published many articles in the industrial press about their services.

Mrs McKay was active in the affairs of the Association all her professional life. She was a member of the first Special Libraries' Committee set up under the chairmanship of Miss Edith Sims in 1942/43 and was chairman of the Special Libraries Committee set up by the NSW Branch in 1944/45. She became the first President of the Special Libraries Section when it was created by the Association in 1953 and served the Section in many offices, including that of General Councillor, over many years.

She was also an active member of the NSW Branch, and was Vice-President in 1948/49 and President in 1949/50.

After her retirement from CIG, she continued her work in librarianship for some years with the Linnaean Society of NSW.

Special librarianship in Australia owes much to Mrs McKay - for her pioneering work in training other special librarians and in publicising the work of industrial special libraries, and for her long and dedicated service to the professional body.

Jean M. Murray

BERTA MANSOURIAN has been appointed Ethnic Services Librarian of the State Library of Victoria. Miss Mansourian, who speaks five languages, holds a BA (Hons) from Monash University and a Graduate Diploma in Librarianship from RMIT.

Miss Mansourian said the State Library had increased its holdings in languages other than English considerably over the past two years. She would like to see the collection used more widely by people from different cultural/linguistic backgrounds.

If you would like to find out more about the State Library of Victoria's multilanguage collection or if you want information about multiculturalism, etc ring her on (03) 669 9047.

MARGE BROWARD is joining IDC Research Australia as a senior research consultant specialising in new electronic media such as videotex, teletext and online public database systems.

Until late last year, Marge was Manager for Development with Insearch Information Services.

MARGARET TRASK, Head of the School of Library and Information Studies at Kuring-gai College of Advanced Education, is on study leave until August 1982.

She is carrying out a needs assessment survey and examining the existing situation of staff development programs in large Australian libraries. As well as visiting the Australian libraries, she is looking at what is happening in this area in the US and UK by visiting institutions and individuals.

Mairéad Browne is Acting Head of the School of Library and Information Studies while Margaret Trask is away.

New England Group

After a period of inactivity, the New England Regional Group has been reconstituted and is planning a program of activities.

The Group is centred in Armidale, NSW, but is keen to organise professional meetings of interest to all librarians in the rural parts of northern NSW.

At a recent meeting the following office-bearers were elected on an interim basis for the remainder of 1981 and have agreed to be nominated for the 1982 Committee: President: Karl Schmude, University of New England Library; Secretary/Treasurer: Jill Harrington, Memorial Library, Armidale; Committee: Judith Wood, CSIRO Library, Chiswick, Rosemary Brewer, University of New England Library, Mary Ann Lea, Armidale CAE Library.

Additional nominations of LAA members for the 1982 Committee should be sent by 16 October 1981 to the Interim Secretary, Mrs J. Harrington, Memorial Library, Faulkner Street, Armidale, NSW 2350. A meeting will be held as soon as possible after that date, in conjunction with an address to the Regional Group by a guest speaker.

News from Divisions

continued

VIC BRANCH

Restricted publications

A delegation from the Branch and the Library Council of Victoria met with officers of the Attorney-General's Department in July to discuss the Police Offences Act as it relates to the handling of restricted publications in libraries. This is of particular concern to the LAA because certain works which could usefully be displayed in libraries (such as *More Joy of Sex*) are now being made restricted publications.

Branch Council's previous opinion that it would be impracticable to have libraries exempted from the Act completely was reinforced as a result of the meeting. The *present* Board members appear to interpret the guidelines in a fairly liberal manner but the danger is that the guidelines could result in a restriction of almost any publication dealing with material of a sexual nature. Branch Council has agreed to pursue the problems faced by libraries and to request a review of the restrictions on particular publications as appropriate. Any comments on the current guidelines or on particular titles which should be reviewed should be sent to Carmen Hanaker at Moonee Valley Regional Library.

Public Library funding

A Branch delegation met with the Victorian Minister for the Arts concerning funding for public libraries. Present prospects of an increase in funding appear slight. In fact, it looks as if libraries may have to fight to maintain their present level of State Government

HAPPENINGS

continued

National

October 28 Australian Satellite Users Association POLICY DEVELOPMENT FORUM 'Satellite access policy' CANBERRA. See item elsewhere this issue for more information.

October 29-30 Australian Society for Historical Archaeology 'Prospects and aspects' the first ASHA Conference on historical archaeology' NATIONAL TRUST CENTRE, OBSERVATORY HILL, SYDNEY. Fee: \$75. Contact: Hon Secretary, ASHA (02)692 2763.

November LAA CE PROGRAM 'Copyright in perspective'. Recent developments in copyright, operation of Copyright Amendment Act 1980. November 16 ADELAIDE; November 18 SYDNEY; November 23 HOBART; November 24 MELBOURNE. Contact: Marilyn Bryce, CE Officer, LAA Headquarters, 473 Elizabeth St, Surry Hills, NSW 2010, (02)698 4100.

New South Wales

October 19 Radio University LECTURE COURSE 'Patents - as a protection and technical information source' including 'Review of patent literature and libraries in Australia'. (5 radio lectures, 7pm Tuesdays, repeated 6pm Thursdays and 8pm Fridays, 1 attended evening seminar). Cost: \$14 (incl. notes). Lecturers include: Graham Lesley (Aust Patent Information Service), Robert Shelston Jnr (Whelston & Waters, Patent Attorneys). Contact: Radio University (02)662 2691.

October 29 LAA Special Libraries Section NSW Group VISIT TO PARLIAMENTARY LIBRARY (entrance off Hospital Road). 6pm sharp. Contact: Dr Russell Cope (02)230 2380.

November 4 LAA Information Science Section/Special Libraries Section NSW Groups JOINT MEETING 'Library package tour' FULL DAY VISIT to three special libraries to see and evaluate their computer packages in action: CSR (CSROOD), Unilever (CAIRS), AMSW (AIRS). Transport and lunch provided. Numbers limited. For cost and registration contact: Maxine Brodie (02)218 9825.

November 20-22 Storytelling Guide, NSW Branch WEEKEND CONFERENCE. LITTE COMPANY GUEST HOUSE, LEURA. Guest: Pat Scott. A11 inclusive cost: \$85. Contact: Zoe Withers (02)755 666 or (02) 82 2586 (ah).

Queensland

November 20 LAA Qld Branch Council MEETING, SEMINAR ROOM 5, QIT LIBRARY 5.30pm LAA members are invited to raise matters with the Branch. Contact: Janice Rickards (07)221 2411 ext 492.

December 2 LAA Qld Branch WORKSHOP 'The management of library automation'. Speakers include: Pixie Crook, John Barker, John Hoag, Roger Worthington, Simon McMillan, Ann Lawson. Cost: \$45 (\$35 LAA members). Contact: Janice Rickards (07)221 2411 ext 492.

December 3 LAA Qld Branch AGM 6pm UNI OF QUEENSLAND CLUB. 7pm DINNER. Guest speaker: Janine Walker. Cost (incl. pre dinner drinks and wine with meal): \$15. Contact: Janice Rickards (07) 221 2411 ext 492.

South Australia

November 19 LAA Special Libraries Section SA Group AGM 12.30pm MUSEUM LECTURE ROOM (behind main museum building) Wine and cheese. All members are urged to attend. Contact: Michael Strode-Smith (08)259 5498.

Victoria

October 21 Victorian Technical Aids Liaison Group DISPLAY OF TECHNICAL AIDS TO HELP DISABLED PEOPLE 7.30pm 454 GLENFERRIE RD, KOYOONG (opposite Koyong Tennis Courts). Items on display include Talking World Book Encyclopaedia and the Paperless Braille. Contact: Dr Terry Davidson, Royal Vic Institute for the Blind, 557 St Kilda Rd, Melbourne (03)51 1381.

November 16 VALA 'The electronic library' UNI OF MELBOURNE LARGE BIOCHEMISTRY LECTURE THEATRE 6pm sharp. Speaker: Dr Kenneth Dowlin (Director, Pikes Peak Library District, Colorado Springs US - see his article which appears in 'Library Journal' November 1 1981). Further info from George Eichinski (03) 341 2335.

Western Australia

November 24 Australian Society of Archivists MEETING 5.30pm UNIVERSITY HOUSE, UNI OF WA. Speaker: Christine Shervington (Archivist, Uni of WA).

funding. Branch Council has identified per capita funding for municipal libraries and funds for preservation of State Library materials as priority areas for increased funding.

Branch Constitution

A Branch Constitution has been drawn up by Branch Council and will be tabled for adoption by the members at the 1982 AGM.

Branch Council membership

Bill Cations has resigned from Branch Council because of an overseas study tour. Margaret Broadhead has replaced him for the remainder of 1981.

Charges for ILL

Branch Council agreed that it is opposed to charging by libraries for inter-library loan transactions.

Sales Tax on books and serials

Both Branch Council and the recent Approval Plans Seminar organisers have written to relevant government departments, politicians and the press concerning the recent imposition of a sales tax on books and serials and its implications on freedom of access to information by the public and the administrative overheads in libraries.

D. Parker